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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY
FOR THE YEAR 1877.

NEW YORK, *January 7, 1878.*

The Council, in reporting to the Society the condition of its trust, would say, that the principal features of the past year have been the unusual interest of the Fellows in its library and collections, its stated and special meetings, and the pleasant accommodation afforded by its building.

Since the last annual report seven meetings of the Society, and eleven meetings of the Council have been held.

At the annual meeting, held January 16th, 1877, Chief-Justice Daly delivered his annual address upon "The Geographical Work of the World in 1876."

On February 6th, Mr. S. F. Emmons read a paper entitled, "The Volcanoes of the United States Pacific Coast."

On March 13th, Dr. William J. Morton read a paper entitled, "South African Diamond Fields, and the Journey to the Mines."

On May 22d, a meeting was held to discuss the plan of the King of the Belgians, for the exploration and civilization of the interior of Africa, and the suppression of the slave trade; upon which occasion remarks were made by the Rev. J. B. Pinney, ex-governor of Liberia; the Rev. Alexander Crummell, D. D., of Liberia; Paul B. Du Chaillu, John H. B. Latrobe, President of the American Branch of the African International Association; and by Chief-Justice Daly.

On November 8th, the Rev. Selah Merrill, D. D., Archæologist of the American Palestine Exploration Society, delivered a discourse entitled, "Modern Researches in Palestine."

On December 17th, Mr. J. A. Bennet, late U. S. Consul at Bogota, South America, read a paper entitled, "My first trip up the Magdalena, and life in the Heart of the Andes."

At these several meetings there have been presented a great variety of subjects, embracing almost every branch of geographical science, and which will be found in the published transactions.

By gift and by purchase the library has been increased 945 items—books, pamphlets, charts and maps.

The annual report of the treasurer, Mr. George Cabot Ward, shows a cash balance to the general fund of \$1,032.71. The permanent fund in his hands, as trustee, has increased, with interest, since last report, to the sum of \$3,872.51; making a grand total to the credit of the Society of \$4,905.22.

It has printed and circulated abroad among the scientific societies, and to the Fellows of the Society and correspondents, five numbers of its Bulletin. The frequent application for duplicate copies of these publications attest the high estimation in which they are held.

The State Survey, which owes its existence to the Society, and more particularly to the urgent efforts of several of its members, has been continued during the past year under the directorship of Mr. James T. Gardner, lately our General Secretary. The report of the Commissioners of the Survey, soon to be presented to the Legislature, will completely vindicate the wisdom of the Society in assisting to found that important work, and will prove the value of the service that it has thus rendered to the State.

In no one year has the Society prospered as in the last ; nor has the attention given to its business details excluded a constant solicitude for its true objects—the diffusion of correct geographical information and the promotion of scientific exploration and survey.

Very respectfully,

(Signed)

WILLIAM REMSEN,

Chairman of Council.